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ER 8-5493

10 August 1956

The President
The White House

ER file - etc 8/23/56

Dear Mr. President:

Four years ago, in August 1952, the then President addressed to you a telegram in which, inter alia, he stated that he had "made arrangements with the Central Intelligence Agency to furnish you once a week with the world situation, as I also have for Governor Stevenson." In your reply to that telegram, on the particular point mentioned above, you stated as follows:

"With respect to the weekly reports from the Central Intelligence Agency that you kindly offered to send me, I will welcome these reports. In line with my view, however, that the American people are entitled to all the facts in the international situation, save only in those cases where the security of the United States is involved, I would want it understood that the possession of these reports will in no other way limit my freedom to discuss or analyze foreign programs as my judgment dictates."

Both Mr. Truman's letter to you and your reply were given to the press under date of August 14, 1952, by the White House (copy enclosed).

Subsequently on August 18, 1952, General Walter Bedell Smith, then Director of Central Intelligence, addressed to you and to Governor Stevenson practically identical letters, copies of which are enclosed.

I am bringing this matter to your attention at this time to ascertain your wishes so that appropriate action may be taken, as you may direct, at an early date after the Chicago Convention in case you desire to take action similar to that taken four years ago.

Respectfully,

AWD/ji

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(Signed) ALLEN W. DULLES

Allen W. Dulles
Director